



# AMESBURY

CITY HALL  
62 Friend Street  
Amesbury, MA 01913

**City Council Workshop Minutes  
City Hall Auditorium, 62 Friend Street  
February 23, 2016, at 6 p.m.  
Microfab Facility Discussion**

Councilor Scorzoni opened the workshop at 6 p.m.

Present from the City Council were: Paul Sickorez, Mary Louise Bartley, Christian Scorzoni, Matthew Einson, Steven Stanganelli, and Robert Lavoie.

Present from the City were: Mayor Gray, William Scott and Thomas Bourassa.

Mayor C. Kenneth Gray spoke about the past, present, and future plans for this site.

Thomas Bourassa, Environment and Energy Manager, presented. He went over basic facts about the Microfab site.

Valerie Thompson, MassDEP Environmental Analyst, presented. She went over the background history and the existing conditions of the site. MassDEP requested assistance from the EAP to be evaluated as a federal Superfund site.

Meghan Cassidy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, presented. She discussed the EPA's involvement at the site, the National Priorities List, and the Superfund process.

\*A copy of each of the three (3) presentations above are on file at the Clerk's office and are available for viewing.

Rick Bartley, Chair of the Economic Development Committee at the Chamber of Commerce and Board Member at the Chamber of Commerce, expressed the unanimous support from the Economic Development Committee. He said he expects the Chamber's full support as well.

Adam Scotch, 15 Spindletree Rd., resident, asked if there were any chemicals left inside the building. Ms. Thompson responded that all baths and drums were removed in the 80s-90s. What is left (possible asbestos etc.) is within the building structure itself.

Mr. Scotch also asked when a site is on the Superfund list, would that affect property values. Ms. Cassidy explained this question comes up often and that it is a bit of a perception issue. The site is already listed as a contaminated site. She said recent studies show that the property values tend to start going up when cleanups begin and certainly at the time which cleanups are complete.

Councilor Scorzoni thanked all those who participated in the discussion.

Councilor Stanganelli asked if there was a need to budget for feasibility studies or anything that would be needed to work in cooperation with the state. Mr. Bourassa said those things needed to be figured out and is actively looking for funding.

Councilor Einson asked if there was a reason not to be added to the Superfund List. Mr. Bourassa responded in the end this process will help the entire City.

Councilor Lavoie asked if the EPA has automatic lien rights. Ms. Cassidy said that EPA can put liens on property and use discretion to release liens.

Councilor Scorzoni asked if this was a competitive process. Ms. Cassidy said there are currently no other sites on the list in Massachusetts. Councilor Scorzoni asked about abutter notifications. Ms. Cassidy said they will work with the City to accomplish what works best.

Councilor Scorzoni asked about the resolution that will be brought before the Council in March. Mr. Scott said they are looking for a resolution from the City Council to support the EPA moving ahead and that's crucial to show the Governor that the City supports the project. He said that information on this topic will be uploaded to the City's web site.

Lars Johannessen, 6 Kendricks Ct., asked about the scope of the project. Ms. Cassidy responded that the cleanup will be wherever the contamination is found, they do not stop at the property boundary.

The workshop adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawne Warren  
Administrative Assistant  
Office of the City Clerk